

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 02345 091245Z

47

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /099 W

----- 057107

P R 091140Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2326

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2345

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PGOV, SU

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A. KHARTOUM 2323 (NOTAL), B. KHARTOUM 2327 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT VERDICTS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN FOURTH SECURITY TRIAL AND THAT AN ADDITIONAL 140 DEFENDANTS WERE EXECUTED. MEANWHILE NIMEIRI HELD A PUBLICIZED MEETING WITH FORMER LIBYAN RCC MEMBER MAJOR OMAR EL-MIHEISHI WHO EXPRESSED WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON FOILING OF JULY COUP ATTEMPT. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS THERE IS A MAJOR ANTI-BRITISH DEMONSTRATION PRESENTLY UNDERWAY IN FRONT OF HMG EMBASSY HERE AND WE CONTINUE TO SEE EVIDENCE OF MAJOR EFFORT BY GOS AT NIMEIRI'S DIRECTION TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH US. PRESIDENT WILL MAKE MONTHLY "FACE THE NATION" SPEECH ON TELEVISION MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 9. END SUMMARY.

1. WE UNDERSTAND VERDICTS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN FOURTH, AND PRESUMABLY FINAL, STATE SECURITY TRIBUNAL AT JEBEL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KHARTO 02345 091245Z

AULIA WHERE DEFENDANTS FROM OUTSIDE KHARTOUM WERE BEING

TRIED. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION ANOTHER 140 DEFENDANTS WERE EXECUTED, BRINGING TOTAL OF ALL THOSE EXECUTED TO WELL OVER 200. AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS UNDER AGE OF 16 HAVE BEEN GIVEN INDETERMINANT PRISON SENTENCES IN KHARTOUM. REMAINDER OF DEFENDANTS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF THIS IN PRESS.

2. AS PART OF HIS CONTINUING CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIBYA, PRESIDENT NIMEIRI HAS RECEIVED FORMER LIBYAN RCC MEMBER MAJOR OMAR AL-MIHEISHI, WHO EXPRESSED HIS WARM CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT AND SUDANESE PEOPLE AND CONDEMNED QADDAFI INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ATTEMPT. MIHEISHI SAID PEOPLE OF LIBYA WERE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR QADDAFI'S BEHAVIOR AND HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE AND THAT OF LIBYAN PEOPLE FOR EARLY DELIVERANCE FROM RASHNESS AND TREACHERY OF PRESENT LIBYAN LEADERSHIP.

3. IN ADDITION TO LIBYA, NIMEIRI HAS ENCOURAGED STRONG "UNOFFICIAL" EXPRESSIONS OF ANGER TO BE LODGED AGAINST BRITISH FOLLOWING BBC PUBLICITY OF STATEMENTS MADE IN UK BY ONE OF COUP LEADERS, SADDIQ AL-MAHDI. DEMONSTRATION AGAINST BRITISH EMBASSY IS UNDERWAY AS THIS CABLE IS BEING PREPARED. THERE IS HEAVY SUDANESE ARMED POLICE GUARD AROUND BRITISH EMBASSY, AND IN PARK ACROSS FROM IT THERE ARE LARGE CROWDS, MOST OF WHOM WERE BUSSED IN FROM PROVINCES, SINGING AND CHANTING. WE HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT GOS WILL MAKE CERTAIN DEMONSTRATION WILL BE PEACEFUL, AND EMBOFF WAS TOLD GOS IS SATISFIED WITH BRITISH EXPLANATION WHICH ON ONE HAND NOTED INDEPENDENCE OF BBC AND FACT THAT AL-MAHDI HAD PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS IN ENGLAND AND THEREFORE HAD FULL FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, BUT THAT ON OTHER HAND, IF HE DID NOT BEHAVE HIMSELF, HIS RESIDENCE PERMIT WOULD NOT BE RENEWED. IRONICALLY, SOME LOCAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE NIMEIRI IS MAKING MISTAKE IN GIVING SO MUCH PUBLICITY TO AL-MAHDI. THIS, TOGETHER WITH APPARENT BRITISH FRIENDSHIP TOWARD HIM, SERVED TO ENHANCE HIS PRESTIGE. THESE OBSERVERS BELIEVE NIMEIRI WOULD BE DOING HIMSELF FAVOR IF HE SIMPLY IGNORED AL-MAHDI.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KHARTO 02345 091245Z

4. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT KUWAITI NEWSPAPER CRITICAL OF EXECUTIONS IS CIRCULATING. SO FAR, IN CONTRAST TO TREATMENT HERE OF BBC REPORTS, THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF KUWAITI ARTICLE OR OTHER OFFICIAL GOS COMMENT.

5. IN CONTRAST TO CURRENT SUDAN-BRITISH RELATIONS, NIMEIRI AND GOS CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE HIGH VALUE OF GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH UNITED STATES. MINISTER OF STATE AND

FORMER AMBASSADOR TO US DENG, WHO HAS RETURNED TO KHARTOUM, BRIEFED CABINET AT ITS REGULAR MEETING AUG 8 ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN US IN AFTERMATH NIMEIRI VISIT. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS, CABINET SESSION WAS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO SUDAN-US AFFAIRS. ON AUG 9 FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY MIRGHANI TOLD CHARGE THAT NIMEIRI HAS DIRECTED CREATION OF MINISTERIAL COORDINATING AND FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MATTERS RESULTING FROM HIS RECENT US VISIT. WE CONTINUE TO LEARN OF OTHER EVIDENCE OF NIMEIRI'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH US. AS NOTED IN REF B, GOS OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TOLD TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH AMERICANS, AND PROMINENT CUSTOMS OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO EXPEDITE AMERICAN GOODS THROUGH CUSTOMS. MIRGHANI TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAS BEEN TOLD TO BEEF UP SUDAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE ALSO SAID THAT NEW AMBASSADOR WOULD BE LEAVING SOON TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST THERE.

6. COMMENT: THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE CONTINUATION OF TRENDS THAT HAVE BECOME EVIDENT IN LAST FEW WEEKS. NIMEIRI IS SCHEDULED TO MAKE HIS MONTHLY "FACE THE NATION" ADDRESS EVENING AUG 9, AT WHICH TIME WE WOULD EXPECT THEMES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO BE TOUCHED ON. BOGOSIAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PLOTS, TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KHARTO02345
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760305-1089
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760872/aaaadclu.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KHARTOUM 2323, 76 KHARTOUM 2327
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by buchanta0>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PGOV, SU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006